

U.S.S.N. 09/779,323

Filed February 8, 2001

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND ELECTION OF SPECIES

Nocardiosis alba set forth as SEQ ID NO:2, classified in class 534, subclass 220;

II Claims 6-10 and 13, drawn to animal feed additives and animal feed compositions comprising the proteases, classified in class 426, subclass 656; and

III Claims 11-12, drawn to methods of treatment of vegetable proteins comprising adding at least one of these acid-resistant proteases, classified in class 435, subclass 68.1.

The claims are related as product and method of manufacture and method of use. The method of group I can only be used to produce the compositions of group II, which are the only materials that can be used in the methods of group II. Accordingly, applicants believe it would not represent an additional burden for the examiner to examine all claims together.

Applicants elect to prosecute the species of SEQ ID NO:1, with the understanding that claims 1-12 are generic, and that claims to all species will be examined once the claims to SEQ ID NO:1 is otherwise determined to be allowable. Applicants disagree that SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2 are products of unrelated chemical structure and function, but they are expected to be related, as the N

as noted in an information disclosure statement was filed in this case on September 6, 2001. Please advise the undersigned if there is any problem in

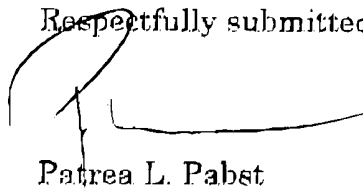
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locating the Information Disclosure Statement and references, in view of the mail
problems the Patent Office has had.

Respectfully submitted,

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